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OSA-1872-63

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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

16 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy For Technology, OSA

SUBJECT : Quarterly Progress Report,
EK Co., under Contract RD-X-63

1. Transmitted herewith for your information and retention are Copies 4 and 5 of Quarterly Progress Report for the period 20 December 1962 to 31 March 1963 submitted by Eastman Kodak Company, under Contract No. RD-X-63.

2. Two copies of this report have been furnished
[redacted] NRO.

/S/

[redacted]
Chief, Contracts Division, OSA

CD/OSA-DD/R [redacted]
Dist: Cy 1 - D/Tech/OSA w/cps 4&5
2 - CD/OSA - RD-X-63 T&P w/cpy 1
3 - RB/OSA

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Approved For Release 2002/10/21 : CIA-RDP66B00728R000100130046-5

IDEA-1188	
COPY 1	OF 5

1 April 1963

JOE

Dear Joe:

Re: Contract RD-X-63

Transmitted herewith is the informal Quarterly Progress Report #1 as required by the contract.

Very truly yours,



NRO
25X1

Orig. + 4cc J. P.

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Contract RD-X-63

First Quarterly Progress Report
(Significant Projects)

20 December 1962 to 31 March 1963

Date: 1 April 1963

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The "telegram of intent" to proceed with this contract was received 20 December 1962. While for months we had been emphasizing the need for development in these fields, the opposition to our proposals and lack of interest in our ideas was such that the acceptance caught us unprepared and without an organization or detailed program.

By the terms of the contract, approval of the Contracting Officer must be obtained before we exceed [redacted] on any item. Such items on which the expenditure is expected to exceed [redacted] are termed "Significant Projects".

NRO
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On 11 February 1963, we submitted in writing to the Contracting Officer the following "Significant Projects".

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1. Frame-by-Frame Processor
2. Automation of I.R. Densitometer
3. Automatic Exposure Control Printer
4. Scanning and Recording Densitometer
5. Reversal Versamat
6. Evaluation of New Materials & Processes

Estimated Cost

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Item 1, the frame-by-frame processor, was considered particularly urgent because of existing lack of a satisfactory method of processing the stellar - index films for the M, J, and L programs. Consequently, we emphasized work on this program and constructed a 70mm breadboard of the essential features of the device. We have stopped work because of failure to receive approval.

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- 2 -

In fact, to date, we have not received authority to proceed on any of the six "Significant Projects" and will in the near future stop work on all of these as we are nearing the [] limit.

NRO
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On 26 March 1963, we submitted "Significant Project" No. 7 for a "command titler" at an estimated cost of [] The need for this titler was established by the titling requirements for the L program given to us on 21 March 1963, and which cannot be satisfied by the existing equipment. If the existing pattern of lack of approvals continues, we will also stop work on this project as we near the [] expenditure.

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We do not propose to submit any more "Significant Projects" until our operation under this contract is clarified.

A summary of our activities on the Significant Projects is shown in Attachment A.

Summary of Activity on
Significant Projects RD-X-63
20 December 1962 - 31 March 1963

Item 1 - Frame-by-Frame Processor

This unit will provide two level development of original 70mm negatives on a frame-by-frame basis.

- (a) The manual control frame-by-frame processor is mechanically complete to a wet windup. The equipment has been installed in a darkroom and is being checked out mechanically. When this is complete sensitometric testing will commence.
- (b) The breadboard of a frame line detector has been built and is being checked out electrically. Test films are being prepared to evaluate the validity of this particular concept.

Item 2 - Automation of the I. R. Densitometer

This unit will provide fully automatic control of the development level on the Trenton processor. A review of the problem shows that the first requirement is a suitable frame line detector. If the detector under development for Item 1 is successful, the concept is also applicable to this item, if not, a new approach will be tried.

Item 3 - Automatic Exposure Control Printer

This unit will provide uniform prints from a negative whose density gradually changes. The initial mechanical and electronic breadboards have been constructed and are now being checked out.

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Attachment A

- 2 -

Item 4 - Scanning and Recording Densitometer

This unit will speed up the present printing level determination by automatically scanning and recording the minimum or maximum density in an area of the negative selected by the operator. Specifications are being prepared for submission to possible subcontractors for the design and fabrication of the initial unit.

Item 5 - Reversal Versamat

This will provide a versatile unit for field use capable of direct or reversal processing of wide sheets or continuous webs. Only the preliminary concept has been worked out. When Item 1 is released for sensitometric testing, engineering personnel will be available to work on this project.

Item 6 - Evaluation of New Materials and Processes

During this reporting period our efforts have been confined to the planning of this program. We estimate that fifty flights will be required to complete the entire test program. To a considerable extent, the actual number will depend on the availability of equipment, sensitized material and manpower. Wherever possible experiments will be designed so that a single flight or several consecutive ones serve a number of coordinated objectives. A number of processing tests in conjunction with the flown materials are also contemplated.

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Item 7 - Mod III (Command) Titler

This unit will provide, on a limited basis, for automatic changes in title information supplied from a tape input.

A subcontract for preliminary design, engineering and exploratory tests has been let. This phase of the project should be complete before the next report.

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